

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL

May 11, 2015

DRAFT

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Audrey P. Beck Building.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro, Wassmundt

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2015 special meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the April 23, 2015 special meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kochenburger who abstained. Mr. Shapiro moved and Mr. Ryan seconded to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2015 special meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Kegler and Mr. Kochenburger who abstained. Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to approve the minutes of the April 27, 2015 regular meeting as presented. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Marcellino who abstained. Mr. Ryan moved and Mr. Kegler seconded to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2015 special minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Brian Coleman, Centre Street, stated that he has been asked by residents to bring up some issues regarding Storrs Center including skate boarders on the Town Square, the windy conditions in between buildings in the Center, and employees using handicapped parking spaces in the garage. Mr. Coleman would also like the budget to go directly to referendum.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

In addition to his written report the Town Manager offered the following comments:

- Staff is reviewing the UConn Sewer Fund increase to see if there is a way the increase can be implemented gradually. Mr. Hart will report back to the Council.
- The Town Manager listed the various venues used by the Town to advertise the Town Meeting and reviewed the process of offering an amendment to the budget at the Town Meeting. Staff will be available to assist residents.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor Paterson announced she attended a vigil for the victims of the Nepal earthquakes, calling it a very moving experience. The Mayor also attended the Youth Services Volunteer Banquet which honored the many student and resident volunteers without whom so much of the work done would not be possible. Ms. Paterson noted the close bonds established between the college and high school students and the young kids in the program. The Mayor also reported that the Southeast School students who presented

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information to the Council on their efforts to save the Monarch butterfly received “threads” in today’s Chronicle.

Mayor Paterson extended her condolences to the family of Carl Schaefer a longtime friend and former Council member. Mr. Schaefer was a professor, a researcher, a much beloved grandfather and was active in many civic organizations in Town. He will be missed.

Ms. Moran had the pleasure of serving as a judge at the statewide History Day. She congratulated the Mansfield Middle School students who “did the Town proud” with their projects and who won a number of awards.

Mr. Shapiro called former Councilman Schaefer a decent and humane person noting that one of his legacies will be the advice letter he gave to new Council members.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Storrs Center Update

In response to comments during the public comment period, The Town Manager remarked that staff also has some concerns about skateboarders in the Town Square and will be presenting a draft ordinance to the Council to address this and other issues. Mr. Hart also commented that a number of parking spaces in the garage have been reserved for those going to the Health Center facility in Storrs Center.

2. Community/Campus Relations

Town Manager Matt Hart noted the following:

- The Town/University Committee will be meeting on May 12, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.
- UConn personnel have agreed to conduct a presentation to the Council on the redevelopment plans for the Depot Campus including the Bergin Correctional property which it is in the process of acquiring.
- Staff from the Parks and Recreation Department and the Community School of the Arts will be updating the Council at a future meeting.

3. Approval for License Agreement between the Town and the Mansfield Downtown Partnership

A revised copy of the license agreement was distributed and the Town Manager identified the revisions.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded, to authorize the Town Manager to execute the proposed License Agreement (as distributed at the May 12, 2015 meeting) with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership for the use of 820 square feet of office space in the Nash-Zimmer Transportation Center, with a rent payment of \$24,240 for the 24-month Term commencing on July 1, 2015 and expiring on June 30, 2017.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

4. Proclamation Recognizing National Bike Month 2015

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Raymond seconded, to authorize the Mayor to issue the attached Proclamation Recognizing National Bike Month 2015.

In an addition accepted as a friendly amendment, Ms. Moran added the following language, ‘WHEREAS, the Town of Mansfield annually holds the John E. Jackman Tour de Mansfield bike tour which event shall be held this year on the 20th of June.’” The motion as amended passed unanimously.

5. Neighborhood Assistance Act Programs

Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Moran seconded, to schedule a public hearing for 7:30 PM at the Town Council’s regular meeting on June 8, 2015, to solicit public comment regarding potential program applications to the Neighborhood Assistance Program. The motion passed unanimously.

6. BlumShapiro Operational & Financial Controls Review

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, reported that the Committee agreed to postpone discussion on this item until June 10, 2015. Mr. Ryan asked members to concentrate on the proposed policies and procedures.

7. Appointment of Auditor to Conduct Financial Audit for Fiscal Year 2014/15

Mr. Ryan, Chair of the Finance Committee, moved to appoint Blum Shapiro and Company, P.C. as the auditing firm for the Town of Mansfield for Fiscal Year 2014/15.

The motion passed unanimously.

8. Legislative Update

The Town Manager distributed and commented on Substitute SB 1, a proposal which would change the current PILOT program into a tiered system. Mr. Hart cautioned that this is a work in progress and subject to change. Mr. Hart also commented on proposed legislation regarding workman’s compensation and firefighters and possible MBR relief for towns.

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

In addition to his previous comments, Mr. Ryan also reported that the Finance Committee has agreed to issue a RFQ for a fraud assessment risk study and has asked staff to recommend procedures for a fraud tip line.

Mayor Paterson reported the Ad hoc Committee on Police Services has met and has begun to establish a process for the review of current and potential services.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Kegler reported that the Commission on Aging has expressed concerns regarding parking issues at the UConn Health Center, noting that the reserved spaces outlined by the Town Manager will help the situation.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

9. Petition to Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (additional signatures)

10. P. Millman (4/27/15)

11. E. Paterson re: Algonquin Pipeline Expansion

12. 2014 Affordable Housing Appeals List – Exempt Municipalities

13. Connecticut Main Street Center Announces 2015 Awards of Excellence Winners
14. Connecticut Main Street Center 2014 Annual Report
15. Eastern Highlands Health District Community Health Action Response Team (C.H.A.R.T.) Receives Grant Funding from the American Planning Association to Combat Chronic Disease
16. Mansfield Downtown Partnership Honored by CT Main Street Center
17. Mansfield Minute – May 2015
18. Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony
19. Youth Service Bureau Volunteer Recognition
20. Charter Communications re: Charter/Comcast Transaction

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS

Ms. Moran requested the consideration of affordable housing at Four Corners be added to a future agenda.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Raymond moved and Ms. Moran seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk

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